

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 SAJ-01 /089 W

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R 091115Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4196

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 489

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, CE, KN

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN FLIGHTS TO TRANSIT SRI LANKA

1. DURING PERIODIC EXCHANGE OF NOTES FEBRUARY 9
REPUBLIC OF KOREA TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, DR. HYO WON
CHO, TOLD US THAT SRI LANKA GOVERNMENT (GSL) HAD
APPROVED REQUEST FOR TWO NORTH KOREAN FLIGHTS TO
TRANSIT BANDARANAIKE AIRPORT (BIA). ACCORDING TO CHO,
FIRST FLIGHT WOULD LEAVE NORTH KOREA FEBRUARY 16,
TRANSIT BIA FEBRUARY 17 BETWEEN 1500 AND 1630 HOURS
AND TRANSIT ON RETURN THREE DAYS LATER. SECOND FLIGHT
WOULD LEAVE NORTH KOREA FEBRUARY 26 AND FOLLOW SAME TIMETABLE.

2. CHO ALSO PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(A) PURPOSE OF FLIGHTS GIVEN TO "OPEN REGULAR
FLIGHTS TO AFRICA."

(B) PILOTS WILL BE NORTH KOREANS BUT THERE WILL BE FIVE
RUSSIANS ABOARD.

(C) AIRCRAFT IS TU 54, AIRCRAFT NO. 551, CALL SIGN
MBROA.

VAN HOLLEN

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NNN

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